	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/566,560	THIVEOS, KONSTANTIN
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael P. Nghiem	2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *Amendment filed on 23 February 2007*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *13-24*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

      1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by Mr. Werner Stemer during a telephone interview on March 12, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Replace Claim 13 with the following:

-- Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of validating fault symptoms appearing at driver outputs, which comprises the following steps:

recording a symptom, present at a driver output, and classifying the symptom into one of several classes of different symptoms by way of a symptom recognition unit;

with a symptom validation unit, assigning to the symptom an item of symptom validation data of "valid" or "invalid" in dependence on a classification resulting from the classifying step;

if the symptom validation item is "valid," reporting [[the]] a classification that is valid, or if the symptom validation item is "invalid," reporting a classification that is invalid [[an item of reporting data assigned to the classification]]; and

reporting the item of symptom validation data. --

Replace Claim 19 with the following:

-- Claim 19 (currently amended): A system for assigning an information item "valid" or

"invalid" to fault symptoms appearing at a driver output, comprising:

a final stage including a symptom recognition unit with a symptom validation unit

and a symptom output unit;

said symptom recognition unit recording symptoms present at the driver output

and classifying each symptom into one of several classes of different symptoms;

said symptom validation unit being configured to assign to a symptom an item of

symptom validation data of "valid" or "invalid" in dependence on a classification by said

symptom recognition unit;

a symptom reporting unit connected to said final stage and to receive from said

system output unit the classification and the item of validation data, and configured to

report, if the information item "valid" is assigned, [[the]] a classification that is valid and

the symptom validation information, or, if the information item "invalid" is assigned, a

classification that is invalid [[the item of reporting data assigned to the classification]]

and the item of symptom validation data. --

Reasons For Allowance

The combination as claimed wherein a method of validating fault symptoms

comprising determining if the symptom validation item is "valid," reporting a

classification that is valid, or if the symptom validation item is "invalid," reporting a

classification that is invalid and reporting the item of symptom validation data (claims

13, 19) is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Zbytniewski et al. (US 5,937,366) discloses a device for classifying fault behavior in

electronic systems (Abstract, lines 1-2). However, Zbytniewski et al. does not determine

if a classification is valid or invalid with respect to a fault symptom.

Holscher et al. ("Microcomputer in der Sicherheitstechnik") discloses 5 safety classes

(English Translation, pages 2-3). Holscher et al. further discloses that some of the

applications are incorrectly classified (English Translation, page 3, last paragraph, lines

3-4), suggesting that the classification may be invalid. However, Holscher et al. does not

disclose reporting the classification that is invalid along with the symptom (symptom
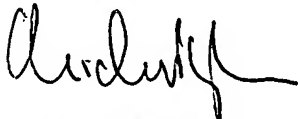
validation data).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Michael P Nghiem whose telephone number is (571)

272-2277. The examiner can normally be reached on M-H.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MICHAEL NGHIEM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Michael Nghiem

March 12, 2007